

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ABU DH 01380 151141Z
ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SY-05 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 USSS-00
CTME-00 /027 W

-----103825 151335Z /47

R 151106Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7836
INFO DEPT TREASURY 2VVD94

UNCLAS ABU DHABI 1380

E O 11652: NA
TAGS: EFIN, TC
SUBJ: SUSPECTED COUNTERFEIT U.S. BILLS IN UAE

1. FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF CHICAGO INFORMED EMBASSY MAY 11 THAT NINE DOLS100 BILLS IN ITS POSSESSION WERE SUSPECTED COUNTERFEITS. WHILE NO LOCAL LAW COVERS SUBJECT IN OPINION OF BANK'S LAWYERS, BANK HAS NOTIFIED POLICE AND LEFT ONE SUSPECTED COUNTERFEIT NOTE WITH POLICE FOR THEIR EXAMINATION. OTHER EIGHT WERE SENT TO FNBC CHICAGO HEADQUARTERS FOR EXAMINATION AND TRANSMISSION TO USG AUTHORITIES IF DEEMED COUNTERFEIT. BANK HAS NOTIFIED LOCAL MONETARY AUTHORITIES OF EXISTENCE OF SUSPECTED BILLS.

2. BANK WAS ALERTED TO POSSIBILITY OF COUNTERFEITS THROUGH ITS TELEX FROM FNBC BRANCH IN SEOUL SAYING THQT A DOL 100 COUNTERFEIT NOTE HAD APPEARED ORIGINATING FROM SHARJAH, UAE. UPON EXAMINATION OF CURRENCY IN FNBC OPERATIONS IN UAE, NINE DOLS 100 NOTES OF SERIES 34 AND 50 WERE DISCOVERED TO BE DIFFERENT FROM OTHERS IN COLOR AND OTHER SMALL DIFFERENCES.

3. LOCAL BANKERS ARE NOT SUFFICIENTLY FAMILIAR WITH OLDER U.S. CURRENCY TO BE SURE ABOUT COUNTERFEITS. POSSIBILITY DOES EXIST
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THAT NOTES HAVE BEEN SECRETED IN SHEIKLY STOREROOM FOR LAST GENERATION OR TWO. PRECEDENT DOES EXIST SINCE PREVIOUS RULER OF ABU DHABI REPORTEDLY CACHED MANY IN UNUSED ROOMS OF PALACE FOR MANY YEARS. HE TURNED TO BANKS SAFE DEPOSIT BOX ONLY AFTER DISCOVERY THAT VERMIN HAD CONSUMED HIS SAVINGS FOR RAINY DAY.
DICKMAN

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Event:
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